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ITEM NO: MH-2 DATE: 1 JULY 1974

SUBJECT: THE CAMBODIAN MILITARY SITUATION

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CAMBODIAN ARMY UNITS REPORTEDLY KILLED OVER 120 KHMER COMMUNIST TROOPS IN HEAVY FIGHTING ALONG ROUTE 5 NORTHWEST OF PHNOM PENH OVER THE WEEKEND. THE HIGHWAY IS AGAIN OPEN BETWEEN PHNOM PENH AND KOMPONG LHONG, 20 MILES FROM THE CAPITAL. ELSEWHERE, THE ARRIVAL OF REINFORCEMENTS AT THE REMOTE SOUTHWEST COASTAL TOWN OF KOH KONG HAS EASED THE SITUATION THERE. TWO GOVERNMENT GARRISONS ON ROUTE 4 SOUTHWEST OF KOMPONG SPEU CITY REMAIN UNDER STEADY ATTACK, HOWEVER. ON THE MEKONG RIVER, GOVERNMENT SALVAGE CREWS ARE ATTEMPTING TO SAVE THE CARGO OF RICE ABOARD A FREIGHTER SUNK BY COMMUNIST GUNNERS ON JUNE 29. DESPITE HEAVY SHELLINGS, THE REMAINDER OF THE 19-SHIP CONVOY HAS REACHED PHNOM PENH SAFELY.

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